

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/607,897

Examiner

Saeed T Chaudhry

Applicant(s)

LACHAWIEC ET AL.

Art Unit

1746

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☐ This communication is responsive to ____.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 16-20.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 27 June 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * Certified copies not received: ____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 6-27-03
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date ____.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other ____.

NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY (PTOL 37)
PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED
IN THIS APPLICATION

Examiner's amendments

An Examiner's Amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 C.F.R. § 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the Issue Fee.

In claim 20, at line 2, "tank" has been deleted and in lieu thereof - - container - - has been inserted.

Authorization for this Examiner's Amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Geoffery L. Chase on June 28, 2004.

Reasons for allowance

The following is an Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance:

None of the prior art discloses or suggests a bulk container conditioning system wherein bulk container having hollow interior; a conditioning quantity of ultra high purity liquefied gas in the interior of the container for producing conditioning quantity of liquefied gas above the level of the liquefied gas; system being arranged to produce vapor on the liquefied gas with temperature difference and to condense vapor on the walls of the container without condenser and a valve to vent vapor from gas space.

The closest cited art, Pipkins (3,699,982) discloses tank, a liquid thinner in the tank, heating means for vaporizing the thinner to produce vapor above the space over the thinner liquid, and maintaining walls of the tank surrounding the head space thereof so that the liquid

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thinner rinses the side walls above the level of paint. The reference fails to disclose quantity of liquefied gas and a valve to vent the vapor above in the head space. One of ordinary skill in the art would not expect to vent the vapors of thinner to vent in the atmosphere since thinner is a flammable material (see col. 2, lines 63-64).

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the Issue Fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the Issue Fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

The Prior art

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Lachawiec, Jr. et al (6,616,769) is parent of this application; Stanford, Jr. et al (5,456,759) disclose process for removing sub-micron particulates with carbon dioxide gas and ultrasonic energy; Nishikawa et al (4,944,837) disclose treatment of an article in supercritical atmosphere of carbon dioxide; and Gerald (1,891,592) discloses process for removing deposits from the interior of hydrocarbon storage tanks by injecting vaporous carbon tetrachloride and then steam.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Saeed T. Chaudhry whose telephone number is (571) 272-1298. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 9:30 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. Randy Gulakowski, can be reached on (571)-272-1302. The fax phone number for non-final is (703)-872-9306.


When filing a FAX in Gp 1700, please indicate in the Header (upper right) "Official" for papers that are to be entered into the file, and "Unofficial" for draft documents and other

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communication with the PTO that are for entry into the file of the application. This will expedite processing of your papers.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-1700.

Saeed T. Chaudhry
Patent Examiner



MICHAEL BARR
PRIMARY EXAMINER